

A TREATISE ON MATERIA MEDICA AND THERAPEUTICS, INCLUDING PHARMACY, DISPENSING PHARMACOLOGY AND ADMINISTRATION OF DRUGS. By the late RAKHALDAS GHOSH. Eighth edition, by B. H. DEARE, Lieut.-Colonel, Indian Medical Service, Officiating Principal and Professor of Medicine, Medical College of Bengal; Physician to the College Hospital; Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Calcutta; and BIRENDRA NATH GHOSH, F.R.F.P.S. (Glas), Examiner in Pharmacology, University of Calcutta; Fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine; Joint Author, *A Treatise of Hygiene and Public Health*. Calcutta: Hilton & Co., 1920.

RAKHALDAS GHOSH was responsible for the first writing of this book. The title page of the present edition indicates that after his death its production has been entrusted to Lieut.-Colonel Deare and Birendra Nath Ghosh, both members of the Medical faculty of the University of Calcutta. This eighth edition is adapted to the new edition of the British Pharmacopeia.

The subject matter is treated in seven parts: *Materia medica* proper; pharmacy and dispensing; administration of drugs; pharmacology; *materia medica* and therapeutics; vaccine and serum therapeutics; and organotherapy.

In the present edition the drugs are arranged and classified according to their pharmacologic and therapeutic uses. This makes it an excellent book of reference for medical practitioners as well as students of *materia medica* and therapeutics. All of the information that one might wish to know about a drug is briefly given, including its source, characters, identification, incompatibles, composition, action, dose, pharmacology and therapeutics.

A complete index makes it a very admirable treatise, one, however, of more use to a Britisher than anyone else. T. G. S.

ELECTRIC IONIZATION: A PRACTICAL INTRODUCTION TO ITS USE IN MEDICINE AND SURGERY. By A. R. FRIEL, M.A., M.D. (DUB.), F.R.C.S.I.; Aural Specialist, Ministry of Pensions, London District; late Physician for the Throat, Nose and Ear, General Hospital Johannesburg; late Aural Surgeon and Bacteriologist, No. 1 South African General Hospital, B.E.F., France. New York: William Wood & Co., 1920.

"THE first chapter of this book explains what is meant by ionization and describes how the electric current can be utilized to introduce drugs into the affected parts of the body for the treatment of disease; the second deals with the equipment necessary and a short space is devoted to making clear some electrical terms; the third

chapter details the effects of different "ions" and the fourth gives an account of technic suitable for applying ionization to different parts of the body."

Fifteen diseases of the skin: suppuration of the eye, ear and nasal sinuses, pyorrhea, inflammations of the urethra and vagina and other conditions are said to yield to this method of therapy. In spite of the fact that the author in his introduction denies that the ionization method is a panacea, this list seems a rather large one to be influenced by a single means of therapeutics.

The subject matter is complete and well presented. The claims made for this method seem unusually wonderful. T. G. S.

THE X-RAY ATLAS OF THE SYSTEMIC ARTERIES OF THE BODY. By H. C. ORRIN, O.B.E., F.R.C.S., Ed. Fellow of Royal Society of Medicine, London; Civil Surgeon attached Third London General Hospital, R.A.M.C.(T.). Pp. 91; 21 plates. New York: William Wood & Co., 1920.

THIS atlas consists of a series of plates made from negatives of a full-time fetus whose arterial system had been injected with a substance opaque to the x-rays. Accompanying each illustration is an explanatory text. The systemic arteries show in continuity, each one being designated by a pointer, and their origin, course, anastomoses and bony relationship are easily studied. At the end of the atlas is a series of stereoscopic plates which aid materially in the study of the larger plates. As an aid to the student of anatomy, this handsomely illustrated volume adequately fulfills its purpose. J. D. Z.

A SHORT HISTORY OF NURSING. FROM THE EARLIEST TIMES TO THE PRESENT DAY. By LAVINIA L. DOCK, R.N., in Collaboration with ISABEL MAITLAND STEWART, A.M., R.N.; Assistant Professor, Department of Nursing and Health, Teachers' College, Columbia University, New York. London and New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, The Knickerbocker Press, 1920.

THIS interesting book is a condensation of the four volumes of the larger *History of Nursing*, written by Miss Dock in collaboration with Miss Nutting. It is planned especially for the use of student nurses. Certain of the more recent developments in the nursing world not to be found in the more elaborate work are to be found in this new book. Much has been enacted in recent years by the white-capped profession, and that much is partly dealt with in